THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Coal India Limited (CIL) has proposed to set up a new subsidiary "Coal Videsh Limited" for acquiring coal equities abroad and the proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) CIL has projected a target of 520.50 million tonnes in the terminal year of Eleventh Plan i.e. 2011-12. Since the activities of CIL for its proposed foreign acquisitions are in the initial stages, coal production projection in 2011 -12 does not include any contribution from foreign sources and is to be achieved from operation within the country only.

Corruption in coal companies

1038. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is rampant corruption and irregularities in coal companies which Government have failed to check; and

(b) the steps taken to check the corruption and irregularities in coal companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) No, Sir. However, complaints received regarding specific instances of corruption/irregular activities are attended to and investigated by the Vigilance Department of the concerned subsidiary company of Coal India Limited. Punitive action is initiated against employees found indulging in corrupt practices and irregularities.

(b) Preventive vigilance measures are taken by way of system study, surprise checks and regular inspections. Recommendations are given by the Vigilance Department to improve the system wherever felt necessary from vigilance angle so as to plug the loopholes in the system observed. Circulars in this regard are also issued for compliance.

Accidents in coal mines

†1039. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been many accidents in coal mines during the last four to five years;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi